GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4555
ANSWERED ON:22.04.2003
EXCESS EXPENDITURE ON ARWSP
RAMJI MANJHI

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the C&AG in its Report 3 of 2002 on pages 128-129, Union Government (Civil) Performance Appraisals has brought out many startling revelations including meeting excess expenditure of hundreds of crores of rupees in supply of unsafe drinking water to the rural population and misappropriation of funds etc.;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government have looked in to those matters;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken in this regard ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ANNA SAHEB M.K. PATIL)

(a) & (b): In Para 17.7 of Chapter IIIof the Report No.3 of CAG for the year 2002 ,it has been observed that in ten States Rs. 191.41 crore were spent in excess of sanctioned cost/provisions and the expenditure met out of Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP) in violation of the Guidelines. In addition, in Para 17.8 of the same Report, it has been stated thatsample checks of records revealed some cases of suspected misappropriation or defalcation in five States.

(c) to (e) : Drinking Water being a State Subject,schemes for providing drinking water facilities are implemented by the States from their own resources. The Government of India only supplements the efforts of the States by providing financial assistance under the Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme(ARWSP). The powers to plan, sanction and implement rural water supply schemes vests with the State Governments. The observations of the CAG are State specific and the concerned States have been advised to take action thereon and report to the Government of India.